



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

AGRI-VIEW



Cooperating with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture
8 East 4th Street, Suite 500 · St. Paul, MN 55101
(651) 296-2230 · (651) 296-3192 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

ISSUE AV-02-08

RELEASED
JANUARY 18, 2008

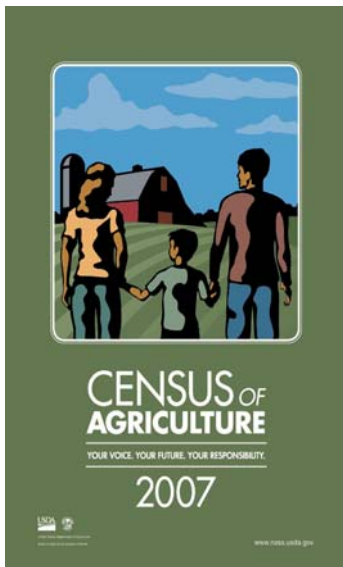
IN THIS ISSUE:

**ANNUAL CROP
PRODUCTION**

**DECEMBER
CROP/STOCKS**

**ANALYSIS OF
GRAIN STOCKS
REPORT**

CENSUS FAQ's



Have you completed your
Census Questionnaire?

Make your voice heard!

2007 CORN PRODUCTION SECOND HIGHEST ON RECORD

Minnesota **CORN** production is estimated at 1.14 billion bushels, down 4 percent from the November 1 forecast but up 3 percent from last year. Record corn production is 1.19 billion bushels, set in 2005. The final yield is estimated at 146.0 bushels per acre, down 5 bushels from November and down 15 bushels from last year. Corn harvested acres, at 7.80 million acres, are up 14 percent, or 950,000 acres from last year. This is the highest harvested acre total on record.

SOYBEAN production, estimated at 252 million bushels, is down 2 percent from November and down 21 percent from the record production in 2006. The estimated yield is 41.0 bushels per acre, down 1 bushel from November, and down 4 bushels from the record high yield set in 2005. Soybean harvested acres, at 6.15 million acres, are down 15 percent, or 1.10 million acres from a year ago.

SPRING WHEAT production is estimated at 77.6 million bushels, unchanged from last year. Acres harvested for grain, at 1.65 million acres, is also unchanged from last year. The estimated yield at 47 bushels per acre is the same as a year ago.

The **SUGARBEET** production of 11.4 million tons is down 4 percent from last year's record production of 11.9 million tons. Yield is estimated at 23.8 tons per acre, down 1.1 tons per acre from last year's record yield of 24.9 tons per acre. Sugarbeet harvested acres are 481,000 acres, up 4,000 from last year.

ALL ALFALFA FORAGE production of 4.32 million tons is down 21 percent from last year. Yield is estimated at 3.32 tons per acre, down from 3.64 tons per acre last year. Forage harvested acres are 1.3 million acres, down 200,000 acres from last year.

MINNESOTA CORN AND SOYBEAN STOCKS DOWN FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

Results from the Minnesota December 1, 2007, Grain Stocks Survey estimated **SOYBEAN** stocks in all positions at 265 million bushels. This was down 15 percent from the previous year's record high of 312 million bushels. On farm stocks, at 160 million bushels, accounted for 60 percent of the total.

CORN stored in all positions is 1.02 billion bushels, down 4 percent from a year ago. On farm stocks, at 750 million bushels, accounted for 74 percent of the total.

ALL WHEAT stocks in all positions were down 19 percent from the previous year, at 49 million bushels. This was the lowest December wheat stocks amount in over 30 years. On farm stocks of 27 million bushels accounted for 55 percent of the total.

BARLEY stocks in all positions totaled 9.9 million bushels, down 32 percent from the previous year. This was the lowest December barley stocks level since the series began in 1949. On-farm stocks accounted for 22 percent of the total.

OAT stocks in all positions totaled 25.2 million bushels, up 10 percent from the previous year. On farm stocks accounted for 19 percent of the total.

U.S. HIGHLIGHTS – GRAIN STOCKS

CORN stored in all positions on December 1, 2007, totaled 10.3 billion bushels, up 15 percent from December 1, 2006. Of the total stocks, 6.53 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 16 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.74 billion bushels, are up 13 percent from a year ago.

SOYBEANS stored in all positions on December 1, 2007 totaled 2.33 billion bushels, down 14 percent from December 1, 2006. Soybean stocks stored on farms totaled 1.10 billion bushels, down 25 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 1.23 billion bushels, are down 1 percent from last December.

ALL WHEAT stored in all positions on December 1, 2007 totaled 1.13 billion bushels, down 14 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 290 million bushels, down 28 percent from last December. Off-farm stocks, at 838 million bushels, are down 8 percent from a year ago.

MINNESOTA & U.S. HARVESTED ACRES, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

COMMODITY	2006 HARVESTED ACRES (000)	2007 HARVESTED ACRES (000)	2006 YIELD	2007 YIELD	2006 PRODUCTION (000)	2007 PRODUCTION (000)
MINNESOTA						
CORN FOR GRAIN (Bu)	6,850	7,800	161.0	146.0	1,102,850	1,138,800
SOYBEANS (Bu)	7,250	6,150	44.0	41.0	319,000	252,150
SPRING WHEAT (Bu)	1,650	1,650	47.0	47.0	77,550	77,550
BARLEY (Bu)	90	110	60.0	56.0	5,400	6,160
OATS (Bu)	200	180	56.0	60.0	11,200	10,800
SUGARBEETS (Ton)	477	481	24.9	23.8	11,877	11,448
DRY BEANS 1/	135	145	1,650	1,800	2,228	2,610
CANOLA (Lb)	27	30	1,330	1,360	35,910	40,800
OIL SUNFLOWERS (Lb)	53	88	1,850	1,600	98,050	140,800
NON-OIL SUNFLOWERS (Lb)	32	39	1,600	1,300	51,200	50,700
ALFALFA HAY (Ton)	1,350	1,150	3.30	3.10	4,455	3,565
OTHER HAY (Ton)	720	730	1.70	1.50	1,224	1,095
ALFALFA HAYLAGE 2/	285	250	7.10	6.10	2,024	1,525
ALL ALFALFA FORAGE 3/	1,500	1,300	3.64	3.32	5,455	4,319
UNITED STATES						
CORN FOR GRAIN (Bu)	70,648	86,542	149.1	151.1	10,534,868	13,073,893
SOYBEANS (Bu)	74,602	62,820	42.7	41.2	3,188,247	2,585,207
SPRING WHEAT (Bu)	13,878	12,947	33.2	37.0	460,480	479,047
BARLEY (Bu)	2,951	3,508	61.1	60.4	180,165	211,825
OATS (Bu)	1,566	1,505	59.8	60.9	93,638	91,599
SUGARBEETS (Ton)	1,303.6	1,246.9	26.1	25.6	34,064	31,912
DRY BEANS 1/	1,537.6	1,478.7	1,577	1,716	24,247	25,371
CANOLA (Lb)	1,021	1,163	1,366	1,250	1,394,332	1,453,830
OIL SUNFLOWERS (Lb)	1,514	1,717	1,181	1,454	1,787,966	2,496,970
NON-OIL SUNFLOWERS (Lb)	256.0	292.5	1,389	1,339	355,647	391,585
ALFALFA HAY (Ton)	21,434	21,670	3.36	3.35	72,006	72,575
OTHER HAY (Ton)	39,493	39,955	1.78	1.95	70,330	77,729

1/ Yield in lb; production in cwt. 2/ Yield & Production (ton) in green weight basis. 3/ Yield & Production (ton) in dry weight basis (13% moisture).

MINNESOTA & U.S. GRAIN STOCKS, DECEMBER 1

COMMODITY	ON FARM		OFF FARM		TOTAL ALL POSITIONS		% CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	

-1,000 BUSHEL-
MINNESOTA

CORN	780,000	750,000	279,336	268,858	1,059,336	1,018,858	-4
SOYBEANS	205,000	160,000	106,786	105,442	311,786	265,442	-15
ALL WHEAT	40,000	27,000	20,596	22,078	60,596	49,078	-19
BARLEY	3,000	2,200	11,510	7,721	14,510	9,921	-32
OATS	6,600	4,700	16,256	20,450	22,856	25,150	+10
HAY (1,000 tons)	4,200	3,140	--	--	--	--	-25

UNITED STATES

CORN	5,627,000	6,530,000	3,305,707	3,738,599	8,932,707	10,268,599	+15
SOYBEANS	1,461,000	1,100,000	1,240,366	1,229,405	2,701,366	2,329,405	-14
ALL WHEAT	403,250	289,540	911,408	838,371	1,314,658	1,127,911	-14
BARLEY	83,650	62,050	89,171	73,028	172,821	135,078	-22
OATS	53,000	43,100	45,889	51,370	98,889	94,470	-5
HAY (1,000 tons)	96,555	103,986	--	--	--	--	+8

Analysis of January 11, 2008, Grain Stocks Report

The grain stocks report released January 11, 2008, contained several noteworthy items. The level of stocks was mostly down for major grains except for corn, which reported an increase of 15% due to larger plantings/harvest. Disappearance, or the trend in use, was reported to be higher for corn and wheat, but lower for soybeans. Off-farm stocks changed less than those grain stocks held on-farm. The developing scenario is that increased demand for feed worldwide will drive world ending stocks of corn and coarse grain lower by about 7.4 million tons. Global wheat ending stocks are expected to increase by .9 million tons. Oilseed production in a global perspective will also decline slightly. U.S. ending stocks of soybeans will be the lowest since 2003/2004.

Corn stored as of December 1, 2007, totaled 10.3 billion bushels, up 15% from last year. About 6.53 billion bushels were stored on-farm, up 16% from last year. The stocks stored off-farm totaled 3.74 billion bushels, up 13% from one year ago. The September-November 2007 disappearance was 4.11 billion bushels, up from 3.57 billion bushels last year (about a 15% increase). There appears to be strong demand trying to pull grain to export channels, away from domestic uses (ethanol and livestock feeding). This effort will tend to increase prices. The battle for acres next year also signals price strength due to the high level of soybean and wheat prices.

Soybean stocks as of December 1, 2007, were 2.33 billion bushels, down 14% from last year. The stocks held on-farm totaled 1.10 billion bushels, down 25% from last year. Stocks held off-farm were 1.23 billion bushels, down 1% from last year. Disappearance of corn for the September to November period was 830 million bushels, down 11% from last year. The slowdown in demand is due to price rationing at current price levels.

Wheat stocks as of December 1, 2007, were reported at 1.13 billion bushels, down 14% from last year. The stocks held on-farm were 290 million bushels, down 28% from last year. Stocks held off-farm were 838 million bushels, down 8% from last year. The disappearance from September to November was 589 million bushels, up 35% from last year. Again, export demand is pulling stocks to the export channel. Durum wheat and barley stocks were also down significantly.

So what does this mean for prices? Prices rallied on all commodities in reaction to the report. The low harvest numbers and higher use pattern triggered the rally. Using the University of Illinois' models for price forecasting results in the following: The average price for corn increased to \$4.38 for this year, with a wider price range indicated. The rally on the upside may mean \$5 corn. Soybean prices were forecast for \$10.30, also higher with a wider trading range. Acreage estimates and developing weather in the southern hemisphere will trigger rallies to new highs. We broke the last price barrier of \$12.60 within the past few weeks. We have the market to ourselves until the South American crop is harvested.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

What is the Census of Agriculture?

The Census of Agriculture, taken every five years, is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and many other areas. For America's farmers and ranchers, the Census of Agriculture is their voice, their future and their responsibility.

How is the Census conducted?

Report forms for the 2007 Census of Agriculture were mailed to farm and ranch operators on December 28, 2007, to collect data for the 2007 calendar year. **Completed forms are due by February 4, 2008.** Producers can return their forms by mail or, for the first time, they have the option of filling out the Census online via a secure web site.

Will my information be kept confidential?

Absolutely. Respondents are guaranteed by law (Title 7, U.S. Code) that their individual information will be kept confidential. NASS uses the information only for statistical purposes and publishes data only in tabulated totals. The report cannot be used for purposes of taxation, investigation, or regulation. The privacy of individual Census records is also protected from disclosure through the Freedom of Information Act.

Must I respond to the Census?

Yes. United States law (Title 7, U.S. Code) requires all those who receive a Census report form to respond even if they did not operate a farm or ranch in 2007.

When will 2007 Census results be released?

NASS will release Census data, in both electronic and print formats, beginning in February 2009. Detailed reports will be published for all counties, states and the nation.

Where can I find Census of Agriculture data?

Census of Agriculture data is available through the NASS field office in your state, as well as many depository libraries, universities and state government offices. It is also available online at www.nass.usda.gov or www.agcensus.usda.gov. For additional information on the Census of Agriculture or any NASS survey, call the Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540.

Douglas Hartwig
Director

Dan Lofthus
Deputy Director